

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 08720 051701Z

46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 TRSE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /056 W

----- 007588

P R 051636Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2460

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

US SECRET SERVICE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 8720

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINR, LE, US

SUBJECT: ACTIVITIES OF "DR." TRAVIS BENKENDORFOR

REF: (A) NICOSIA 3316, (B) BEIRUT 8660

1. ON 1 DEC A LEBANON ARMY OFFICER CONTACTED DATT BY TELEPHONE TO ARRANGE A MEETING TO DISCUSS "DR. BEN." THE LIAISON TOOK PLACE ON 3 DEC 76 DURING WHICH TIME THE LEB ARMY CONTACT RELATED THAT AN INDIVIDUAL KNOWN ONLY AS "DR. BEN" HAD BEEN TO SEE GEN HANNA SAID 30 NOV AT THE ARMY HQ. THE CONTACT DID NOT KNOW THE EXACT NATURE OF DR. BEN'S VISIT, BUT WAS ASKED TO "CHECK HIM OUT" BY GEN SAID. THE DATT TOLD THE CONTACT THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE "DR. BEN" WAS NOT WORKING FOR THE EMBASSY AND HAD NO CONNECTION WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

2. ON 4 DEC, SAME LEB ARMY OFFICER AGAIN MADE CONTACT WITH THE DATT AND STATED THAT "DR. BEN" HAD HAD A MEETING WITH FORMER GOL PRESIDENT CAMILLE CHAMOUN IN HIS CAPACITY AS MIN OF DEFENSE ON DEC 3 AND THAT HE (DR. BEN) GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS REPRESENTING THE U.S. GOVT AND POSSIBLY THE CIA. THE CONTACT SAID THAT DR BEN WAS OPERATING WITH A WOMAN AND A FRENCHMAN AND THAT HE WAS ATTEMPTING TO GET DETAILED SECRET INFO ON THE SOUTH LEBANON MILITARY SITUATION. THE CONTACT REPEATEDLY ASKED: CAN WE TRUST HIM? DATT ADVISED CAUTION, SINCE DATT HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THIS INDIVIDUAL AS A US REPRESENTATIVE.

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3. CHARGE HAS ASKED DATT TO INFORM HIS CONTACTS THAT CHARGE  
WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH "DR. BEN" AND WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF  
HE WOULD CALL AT THE EMBASSY. PLEASE ADVISE IF DEPT WISHES US TO  
TAKE ANY FURTHER ACTION IN THIS CASE.  
LANE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BEIRUT08720  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760449-1205  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 NICOSIA 3316, 76 BEIRUT 8660  
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**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 16 MAR 2004  
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**TAGS:** ASEC, PINR, LE, US, (BENKENDORFOR, TRAVIS), (CHAMOUN, CAMILLE)  
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